

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PANAMA 04405 172138Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
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P R 172055Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2420
INFO PANCANAL
USCINCSO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PN
SUBJECT: TREATY NEGOTIATIONS - MEDIA COVERAGE

1. MAIN ITEM RELATING TO NEGOTIATIONS IN JUNE 17 PRESS WAS
A LONG BYLINER FROM LUIS NOLI IN WASHINGTON, FEATURED IN
BOTH "STAR AND HERALD" AND "ESTRELLA" AND CARRIED AS A
NATIONAL INFORMATION COMMISSION COMMUNIQUE IN "MATUTINO".

2. ARTICLE DEALT WITH EFFORTS BY GOP SPOKESMEN,
INCLUDING AMBASSADOR LEWIS AND NEGOTIATOR LOPEZ-GUEVARA, TO
PRESENT PANAMA'S POSITION TO THE U.S. CONGRESS AND PUBLIC. NOLI
WOULD UP ARTICLE WITH A REPORT ON INCREASING OPPOSITION WITHIN
US TO NEW TREATY, CITING CONG. MCDONALD'S OPEN LETTER ASKING
SUPPORT FOR CONSERVATIVE CAUCUS AND REPORTING ON FORM LETTERS,
BUMPER STICKERS, AND SIMILAR DEVICES BEING USED (FULL TEXT
FBIS/PANAMA PA 170130Y.)

3. "CRITICA", WITH ITS USUAL JOURNALISTIC FLAIR, INVERTED THE
ARTICLE AND CARRIED IT UNDER A HEADING "FURIOUS CAMPAIGN
AGAINST THE TREATY". ARTICLE WAS A REWRITE OF NOLI'S AND A
PASTICHE OF OTHER ITEMS GENERALLY DEALING WITH TREATY,
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INCLUDING SECRETARY VANCE'S STATEMENT IN GRENADA AND FAVORABLE
REFERENCES TO NEW TREATY AT 193RD INFANTRY BRIGADE CHANGE OF
COMMAND CEREMONY YESTERDAY (SEPTTEL).

4. "CRITICA" ALSO REGALED ITS READERS WITH AN EDITORIAL REHASH
OF YESTERDAY'S COMMUNIQUE ON THE NEGOTIATIONS. THERE WAS
LITTLE OTHER COVERAGE.

5. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH HIS APPOINTMENT WAS INITIALLY BILLED AS THAT OF AN OFFICIAL TRANSLATOR, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE GOP HAS AT LAST MANAGED TO OBTAIN THE SERVICES OF LUIS NOLI AS A PRO-TREATY PUBLICIST AS WELL. HE WOULD BE EQUALLY EFFECTIVE IN EITHER ROLE. HE HAS LONG RESISTED BECOMING FORMALLY INVOLVED IN GOP TREATY PUBLIC RELATIONS EFFORTS, LARGELY DUE TO A DESIRE NOT TO GET TOO CLOSE TO THE TORRIJOS GOVERNMENT. HOWEVER, HE IS AS PATRIOTIC AND PRO-TREATY AS MOST PANAMANIAN, AND APPEARS DISPOSED NOW TO PLAY A PART. GONZALEZ

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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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